THE DAILY COMMERCIAL,

PUBLISHED BY THE COMMERCIAL PRINTING COMPANY,

OFFICE, 75 FIFTH AVENUE, (UP STAIRS.)

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W. D. THOMPSON, Business Manager.

TERMS OF THE DAILY:

Single Copy ..... 2 Cents.
Per Week, delivered by Carriers ..... 15 Cents.
Per Month, " " ..... 60 Cents.
Per Year, " " ..... $7 20.
Per Month, at the counter, ... 50 Cents.

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FIRST EDITION.

10 O'CLOCK, M.

WASHINGTON.

LEVEE AT GRANT'S HEADQUARTERS

The Southerners Talk Cabinet and Grant Suppose they ought to be Satisfied. Execution of Reconstruction Laws. Report on Treatment of Union Prisoners During the War. Georgia Representatives Claims to Seats to be sent Congress. Grant will Recommend the Suffrage Amendment. Survey of the Ohio River. How Grant will Make Appointments. A Visit Cause for Uneasiness.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 1, 1869.

Levee at Grant's Headquarters.

The crowd at Headquarters this morning was larger than ever before. Among the callers were about thirty members of Congress, of whom a dozen were Southern Representatives. Governor Clifford, of Massachusetts, presented the names of Messrs. Crapo, Boutwell and Maynard, and got an answer from Grant that he would think of the matter. Whether recognizing the claims of the South, Grant will appoint a Northern man, was asked if they could not be satisfied with the representative which the South had had in the White House for the last three years, the gentlemen had come here with the expectation of being consulted, and that reason as to be got settled in his new place he should send a confidential communication there who would execute the constitution in good faith. Governor Ingersoll, of Connecticut

The Daily Commercial.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1869.

The Springfield *Republican*, referring to the unexpected withdrawal of Mr. Dawes from the contest for the Speakership, remarks that "the reasons will doubtless appear in the course of next Fifty work if not at once." This is a delicate way of intimating that he is in danger of being sidetracked into the Cabinet.

"Civil Engineer" publishes in our columns to-day a rejoinder to some remarks made at the meeting of Councils last week, criticising his estimates and his views in general concerning Liberty avenue. This is a question of so much importance that the facts only and a sound improvement policy should be taken into the account. Members of Councils, it is presumed, will be guided by no other rule, and we think that the showing and arguments of "Civil Engineer" will strike them as enlightened and progressive.

GEN. GRANT is reported to have said that those who come to Washington for offices are generally the men who ought not to have them. Had this remark been made a week ago, the crowd in Washington this week would have been spoiled. As a matter of fact, those who have rushed to Washington with their papers and backers, in the expectation of bringing their appointments away with them, have shown a poor appreciation of Gen. GRANT. A great many persons have yet to learn the first lesson in this respect.

THE contract for the *Legislative Record* expires with the present session. The opinion very generally prevails that it is an unnecessary expense and should be stopped. The Bedford *Inquirer* forcibly remarks: "Let it be wiped out and the necessity for an army of pastors and fellows will be eliminated and thousands of dollars of postage be saved to the State. Reforms of this kind, to be effective, must be radical and sweeping." The work of retrenchment will be scarcely begun so long as the publication of the *Record* is continued. The *Inquirer* well says "this is the next work of the Republican party, for the present Legislature begin it at once, and let it be the voice of every honest man will uphold and commend them."

THE proceedings of the adjourned meeting of Pittsburgh Councils, reported on the fourth page of to-day's paper, are full of interest. The Fort Pitt Department act was passed in the Select Council, but in the Common Council its further consideration was postponed for one year. The act relative to the City Park, which was passed at the last meeting of the Select Council with an amendment submitting the question to a vote of the people, was adopted in the common branch yesterday. The act to create a Water Commission was discussed and amended in the Select Council, and then adopted. The City Solicitor was instructed to revise the act, and report the same to an adjourned meeting, to be held on Wednesday afternoon.

It is threatened, we understand, on the part of the House at Harrisburg, to compel the Senate to adopt the resolutions of the 17th ult., relative to the discharge of the twenty-seven additional officers and their payment to that date. It is intimated that the House will be satisfied with the concurrence of the Senate in the adoption of the resolutions referred to, but that if that body does not agree they of the House will insist on the payment of the additional officers for the entire session. This they propose to accomplish by refusing to agree to an adjournment, as they hold that it is the "height of impudence" for thirty-three Senators to attempt to control one hundred members of the House, even in so small a matter as economy and retrenchment in public expenditures.

UNDER the rate of exchange into the account, the actual value of Five Dollars in London is nearly 90 cents in gold. This rise, in connection with other evidence of confidence felt abroad in our credit, is very gratifying. Nor is the upward tendency of our securities likely to be checked. The action that have practically contributed to action of Congress declaring the payment of all our securities in gold will exert an important influence in all the markets where they are held. But the general effluence of holders of our securities in the control, character of the incoming administration, for rigorous honesty and determined economy. We expect to see our securities go up to par in the principal foreign markets. Nothing but nothing of excessive quantities will prevent this. And we expect to see the home gap between currency and gold gradually and healthfully diminish from the same general causes, and under simulated business throughout the country.

THE Philadelphia *Press* commenting on the course pursued by Democratic Gov. Hoffman in refusing to permit public meetings to be held, says: "It need not apply. If anybody in need, sees that money at its immediate calls, a cable telegram to the effect that Napoleon and the whole Bonapartean family had been treated as Francis X. and Louis Patrimore had been treated in 1866 and 1867 by the offended intelligent, and irresistible Parisians. This may indicate to read the serious issues of the past."

It is difficult to determine whether Napoleon III. ignores the past, or considers himself superior to its former surrender. He has made France his great study. His history proves that he is not efficient with stupidity, yet it is difficult to account for the course in entrusting a volatile people. Napoleon I. made a province of permitting free discussion at least he did not refuse the enlightened portion of the people the pleasures imparted through printer's ink. He simply made the most of the printer's art, turning it to his own account whenever occasion offered. He did not attempt to stifle thought—he only aimed to guide it, and where he could not control it, to ex-hibit silence. Napoleon III. goes a step further. He refuses the necessary mental food, dentions upon the principle that prevents action by dosing out the thought that inspires it. The method seems official to us, who are accustomed to arguing that it is better to provide good food for thought, than to permit thought to stagnate, and rule the result. The result, as demonstrated by universal history, proves that nothing is more hideous, malevolent, unreasonable, cruel, or terrible than the distortion of thought confined in the brain of a people deprived of proper teaching. The history of France does attest this fact in a remarkable manner. We need not be surprised, therefore, if history repeats itself on a more serious scale.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED.

MR. ROBERT J. WORKMAN'S testimony before the Clerks committee shows that he understands the art of making the most of a good thing about as well as any one can be illustrated. The negotiations for the purchase of Alaska were on foot in 1867, when Mr. WORKMAN was sent out to Russia as a secret agent by Secretary SEWARD. After the negotiations were fairly under way, it seems that it suited Mr. WORKMAN to waive his claim to the settlement by WILLIAM and he rather encouraged than opposed the appointment by the Russian Government, which immediately created itself of the needs of Mr. WORKMAN'S services in completing the negotiations. This is Mr. WORKMAN'S own testimony, as it is in his language; but the facts are effective to us.

The correspondence that has not been given to the public, but that is said to be in the hands of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, between Secretary SEWARD and Mr. WORKMAN, is said to be very interesting. It is understood that Mr. WORKMAN claims that he was promised a consulship in Europe, and that Secretary SEWARD declined to make the appointment, on the ground that Mr. WORKMAN was not known in the transaction, the business is all the same. The influence secured through the disbursements of moneys, or distribution of government patronage, instead of being placed at the disposal of the government, on demand, is used against it. We do not say in entering his influence to consummate the purchase of Alaska, Mr. WORKMAN was morally wrong. This effort may have been exerted for the benefit of Russia, and at the same time furthered the interests of the United States, in addition to the advancement of his own. But if this be the actual truth, all we have to say is that such lucky strokes of business are seldom accomplished. And if the principle upon which he based his operations is right, we can see no reasonable objection if A., B., or Mr. SEWARD, should consider the idea of establishing an International Broker's Office upon their retirement from public life. But we opine that the American public would not view such an occupation as strictly consistent with the dignity demanded of aspiring public functionaries.

As this is the second instance in which the actions of ex-officials has attracted public attention, perhaps it would be well to adopt measures that will prevent similar discussions hereafter, either by accepting Mr. WORKMAN'S course as a safe precedent, or by rebuking it. It is not long since the House evinced an inclination to censure JAMES P. HAZE for pursuing a course less reprehensible than that of Mr. WORKMAN in the Alaska purchase. The present majority would seem to be a fitting time to dispose of the question finally.

GRANT AND WILLIAMSON.

General GRANT has been called the American WALLENSTEIN. In some respects his character resembles that of the hero of Waterloo. Reserved in speech, cautious and deliberate in forming his opinion of men and things, animated by steady defined convictions, unbelieving in the discharge of what he conceives to be his duty, possessing sound common sense, his public life embraces much that entitles him to the name of the American WALLENSTEIN. All to this his method of conducting military movements, and the services he has rendered his country, and the parallel is complete.

The history of WALLENSTEIN exhibits a degree of devotion and fidelity to his Government that we may look for in vain in the life of a mere politician. All his energies were devoted to the welfare of his Government. His greatest enemies have been unable to point out a single act in his long life that could by any possible process of reasoning, be interpreted as selfish, petty or unpatriotic. Selfishness, individualism, expediency—anything short of direct treachery, or that savored of unfaithfulness to the Government, seemed to be ignored, his patient rebuke and lasting disapproval. No matter how we may regard his views on the subject of Government, we cannot withhold our admiration of his unswerving fidelity to what he conceived to be just and right. There was a period in the history of England when the Duke of WALLENSTEIN had it in his power to proclaim himself supreme ruler. Instead, he promptly placed every subsidiary that station would divine around the throne, and quelled it in faithfully until the crisis passed.

General GRANT, in his dealings with common place politicians, evinces the same fidelity to the interests of the American people. Already he has proved himself equal to emergencies, such as found his predecessors vacillating and unfaithful. Even in his new and untried position he has proved more than a match for those who have made the requirements of civil life a study. The rare knowledge of men displayed in his ordinary career is evinced in his dealings with the host of politicians who claim to represent the interests of the people.

Possessing the entire confidence of the mass, his capacity and good intentions, we see no reason to doubt that he will acquit himself in his new position in such a manner as to excite him in political, as well as military affairs, to the name of the American WALLENSTEIN.

The Cuban Reconnoissance.

Our advices from Cuba can only be interpreted in one way. The success of the insurrection is now certain. For the first time in the struggle, the official information acknowledges the official defeats. Second the discouragement of the Spaniards is now sufficient to cause cessation. But as these official reports were always accompanied with a demand for more troops, subsisting people accustomed them with the allowance. This are for more troops was the usual request, that at the present hour. All the information we receive upon whether received through Cuban or official sources, confirms the impression that the Spaniards in Cuba have fully accepted the fact that they are about to be driven into the sea. Nothing but the sending of excessive quantities will prevent this. And we expect to see the home gap between currency and gold gradually and healthfully diminish from the same general causes, and under simulated business throughout the country.

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GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Some of this time is absent an American city. Indeed an impression now our minds that they have an "American Club," which occupies a splendid suite of apartments in an old palace. This club resolve on Twelfth Night, over a splendid ball which was graced by the presence of many of our fair country women.

Gen. Grant, a few days ago, referring to the discussion then going on relative to increasing his salary, remarked: "I shall live on what Congress gives me, spending of course every cent of it, and if more was given me I should spend it all. I have no desire, and do not expect, to save anything from my salary, whatever it may be, for my kindhearts have placed me in a position which leaves me free from all anxiety about future want, or the wants of my children. We shall have enough to live on, and it is better for them—meaning his children—that they do not rely for support upon money."

The Board of Trustees of Cornell University have inaugurated the custom of having dancing at college receptions. The pastors of several churches in Ithaca were not a little surprised, on attending a reception to which they were invited, to find that, instead of the usual refreshments, tea had been introduced. Five of them have united in a letter to the President and Faculty, stating their objections to the practice, and therefore, which has been published.

At a recent meeting of the Royal Geographical Society of England, Mr. A. B. Finlay read a paper highly encouraging as to the Gulf Stream. He maintained that the volume of that current is much smaller—only one-third what it is generally supposed to be, being contracted by a high submarine mountain between Cuba and Florida. The Gulf stream was called a "thin film" of water and altogether too insignificant to cause the exceedingly warm climate of the British Isles.

When Mr. Jay Cooke assumed the duties of Chairman of the Executive Committee of the new "National Life Insurance Company," he fixed upon Mr. Redfield as the General Agent for New England, headquarters in Boston. Redfield accepted last summer and would have removed from his present place to enter upon his new duties, had President Johnson nominated a person satisfactory to the Senate to be his successor.

An Illinois paper says: "A curious statistician has figured out that there is now in circulation in this State just $3 to each individual. Somebody has got our share."

The prospect for a good wheat crop in East Tennessee is fine. The weather during the winter has been of such a mild character that wheat has not been frozen out, as is often the case, caused by frequent freezes and thaws.

Turkey and Greece are again on an unfriendly footing. How two such compassionate characters as turkey and Greece could quarrel is a mystery to Mrs. Partington. But such is life.

The Consolidated City—Its Improvements.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

I learn from your and other city papers, reports of the proceedings in Councils at their meeting on Friday last, that the petition for a change in the location of Liberty avenue was presented and referred to the Survey Committee, and that to Select Council Dr. Gross took exception to the petitions and would like some explanation in regard to them.

One of the city papers says: "Dr. Gross took up the letters of 'Civil Engineer' on the subject and fairly tore the arguments to tatters."

"Fore, the statement that the route proposed by the writer ran at one point over a ravine one thousand two hundred feet in length and one hundred and twenty feet in depth, the cost of filling which would be enormous, while the route proposed by the Survey Committee, by a slight deflection, avoided this ravine.

"Second, Would enhance instead of impairing the value of the property through which it was proposed to run, and offered several other advantages over the route proposed by Civil Engineer, the nature of which Dr. Gross explained in a forcible and convincing manner."

I regret that the writer of the above quoted article did not state more fully the "several other advantages," that your paper might have had an opportunity to judge how forcible and convincing they were.

From the same paper, and other reports, I learn that Dr. Gross made the following points:

Third, That there did not appear on the petition the name of a single property holder among the proposed avenue.

Fourth, That the members of the Survey Committee of last Councils who owned real estate, during last summer, visited the locality, and did all in their power to lay down a proper route.

Fifth, That the proposed change would cut a field large enough to lay out a magnificent city and a shame like one each.

Sixth, That the change would be a pecuniary benefit to him, but that in case of condemnation with the property lying south of the railroad toward and on Squirrel Hill.

Dr. Gross, also (if correctly reported), used some rather undignified language, intended to be disparaging to "Civil Engineer," and expressing the opinion that he knew nothing at all of the subject to which his letters related.

In this, I shall not follow the Doctor further than to remark that his opinion on engineering question, is entitled to about the same weight as mine on a case in medical practice—both being somewhat unprofessional.

I have no personal feeling and care little for any personal controversy, but my interests as a citizen leads me to briefly correct some of Dr. Gross's statements, and to review his arguments as far as they have been reported, in doing which I will consider the points made as announced above.

First, The opinion reported to be that on which Dr. Gross's hobby is located, and around which is centered "the Survey Committee avoided by a slight deflection." This excuse is caused by all of those who are opposed to Liberty avenue. The Survey Committee did not avoid the ravine which they called the "Himrichs' line," on which the distance across the ravine was twelve hundred feet from grade to grade, and which was one hundred and four feet in the lowest part. The line now adopted *avoids or deflects to by me.* In my first letter I proposed throwing out the angle of ten and so half degrees to the left, and crossing the ravine on the first high ground, which route would have given a line seven hundred feet from grade to grade, and ninety feet fill in lowest part. But in my letter, I changed my recommendation to the line now adopted, about by an attack made by the insurgents upon a foraging expedition from the besieged garrison of Puerto Principe. The insurgents were repulsed with great slaughter. Some days after a second engagement was fought with similar results. The insurgents, in the last mentioned there seems to be no doubt of the fact that the insurgents made the attack, and compelled the Government troops to fall back upon the fortifications. The number of refugees who are now pouring into Nassau is augmenting daily. These facts do not promise well for the future peace of the Captain General, or the success of his measures.

Visit of Precious Metals.

The following is the officially estimated amount gold of the States and territories for per cent. in the mint of the United States, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869:

	1867.	1868.	Total.
California	$2,000,000	$2,000,000	$4,000,000
Nevada	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
Montana	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
Washington	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
Oregon	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
Colorado	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
Idaho	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
Utah	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
New Mexico	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
Dakotah	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
Arizona	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
Reserved for			
Total	$15,000,000	$15,000,000	$30,000,000

A widow at Westfield, Mass., who has issued fourteen fifteenth notices, says:

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

How Not to Be Happy. By Albert J. Bellows, M. D. New York: Hurd & Houghton.

There is much more in this volume than the title implies. Dr. Bellows does not deal solely with ailments or the prevention of ailments. His views are founded upon every page for the general, the professional man, the secretary and the laboring portion of the community. What to eat, when to eat it, and how to prepare it for eating in order that it may be readily digested; these are things that the Americans more than any other people, perhaps, require to be taught. Dr. Bellows desires to teach them what gives purity to the blood, and what causes impurity. He shows that it is possible to prolong life by studying the philosophy of such a common place thing as our eating. We remember having read somewhere that oatmeal was one of the great brain-feeding elements. The author of this thought stated the social peculiarities of the Scotch. Now, we were not ignorant of the fact that nearly all of the prominent London journals, and leading English Reviews were edited by Scotchmen, and are yet—but we were dubious about the direct influence of oatmeal cakes. However, it has been demonstrated that the more active the brain, the more phosporus is used up: hence it follows that thinking men should inform their readers how to replace it. Those things that develope or impair mental vigor. Perhaps if the philosophy of eating were better understood the public would not be imposed upon so frequently by stupid "boarding houses, gorgrinders and hotel-keepers. Jesting aside, we welcome Dr. Bellows's book warmly. Anything that will save our stomachs from the base burdens imposed upon them by ignorant cooks and housekeepers is entitled to a very large share of the world's gratitude. For sale by Pittock.

Recollections of the West. By H. M. Brackenridge. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.

Perhaps no native of the West is more generally known than the author of this volume. The incidents told of him, the characters with whom he associated, and the prominent scenes through which he passed have become historical. The "Recollections" extend over a period of twenty-five years, and deal with men and things that have passed away. The author's first visit was made to Pittsburgh in 1811. He was then but ten years old. His early recollections embrace much that is new to him. Walter Forward, Judge Wilkinson, Mr. McDonald and others, all of whom distinguished themselves in after life.

Baltimore was then seven days journey from Pittsburgh. The passenger by those days did not dream of an iron horse. An ambling gait on a solitary road, with no company further than could be extracted from the saddle bags, was the common style of travel. A coach, or broad horse, floated lazily down the Ohio, for Fitch had not then fashioned his first model. Court proceedings were not attended with that gravity which marks the solemn sessions of the present day. For instance we are told that

"The first court held in Butler was held in a log cabin, or dwelling, and the Judge, Bar, Jury, and spectators were all crowded in it. The Judge had to sit on a bench without a back, and the lawyers, jurors, and spectators had to stand, or sit on the floor. The prisoner was arraigned, and pleaded guilty to the charge of stealing a horse. The Judge thereupon ordered him to receive thirty-nine lashes on the bare back, well laid on, and sentenced him to be imprisoned in the county jail for the term of one year. The prisoner was then taken out of the house, and the sentence executed by a constable, in the presence of the Court, the Bar, the Jury, and the spectators. The prisoner was then brought back into the house, and remanded to jail. The Court then adjourned to the next day, when the prisoner was brought into Court, and the

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

MONDAY EVENING, March 1, 1869.

The local money market opens this week with a pretty steady demand for immediate use in the manufacturing towns, and, so far as the Pittsburgh trade is concerned, one of the most difficult tasks in the line of our daily duties is correctly and satisfactorily to report the condition of the money market. There is no change, and no disposition, and no one has any idea that any one will be contented to borrow, or not report the market other than easy, while the banks meet in their bankers, and those who must borrow, report money scarce.

The following statement exhibits the business of the Pittsburgh Clearing House for the week ending Saturday, February 27, 1869:

	Exchanges.	Balances.
Monday	$3,[illegible] 39	$[illegible] 39
Tuesday	[illegible] 39	[illegible] 39
Wednesday	[illegible] 39	[illegible] 39
Thursday	[illegible] 39	[illegible] 39
Friday	[illegible] 39	[illegible] 39
Saturday	[illegible] 39	[illegible] 39
Total	$[illegible] 39	$[illegible] 39

The institutions in Government bonds to-day were active. The opening price seemed to indicate another advance, but as the day advanced the market appears to have fallen off and rates ended steadily downward. There was considerable similarity between the movement of the market to-day and Saturday. In the latter instance the movement of the market took place in the forenoon, and in the former seemed to be the reverse. The institutions in government bonds to-day were: The opening price seemed to indicate another advance, but as the day advanced the market appears to have fallen off and rates ended steadily downward. There was considerable similarity between the movement of the market to-day and Saturday. In the latter instance the movement of the market took place in the forenoon, and in the former seemed to be the reverse. The London letter received by the House, McVay & Co., describes

"The fluctuations in government bonds to-day were wide. The opening price seemed to indicate another advance, but as the day advanced the market appears to have fallen off and rates ended steadily downward. There was considerable similarity between the movement of the market to-day and Saturday. In the latter instance the movement of the market took place in the forenoon, and in the former seemed to be the reverse. The London letter received by the House, McVay & Co., describes

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The Daily Commercial.

CITY MATTERS.

CITY COUNCILS.

Adjourned Meeting—The Bill Creating a Paid Fire Department Passed to Second Reading and Postponed—The Bill Creating a Board of Water Commissioners—The Park Question, Etc., Etc.

An adjourned meeting of the Select and Common Councils, on the bill of Finance, was held on Monday, March 1st, 1869, at two o'clock P. M.

SELECT COUNCIL.

JAMES MARTLEY - - - - - President.
C. G. MORROW, - - - - - - - Clerk.

Council came to order at a quarter past two o'clock, and the CLERK called the roll when the following members answered to their names: Messrs. Rogers, Coffin, Craig, Dickson, Fleming, Gourley, Hamilton, Hartman, Hays, Kerr, Latimer, Lloyd, Marshall, Morrow, Patterson, Phillips, Quinn, Rafferty, Ross, Shaffer, Stevenson, Wallace, Watson, Wick, Wilson, Zeis, and Speaker Martley—24.

THE BILL CREATING A PAID FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. ALTEMUS stated that as this was a special meeting called especially for the consideration of the Finance bill, and as the Committee on Finance had been in session for several days, he would move to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, and confine the time of the session to the consideration of the bill.

Mr. HAMILTON objected to so far as allowing the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, and moved the consideration of the bill be postponed for the purpose of allowing the reading of the minutes.

Mr. ALTEMUS stated that he himself made the motion for the purpose of getting at business, and was not for the express purpose of preventing the reading of the minutes, which was the object of the other.

Mr. HAMILTON insisted that Mr. FLEMING should not vote on the question.

Mr. FLEMING stated that he withdrew from the Chair, and was not for the purpose of voting on the bill.

Mr. HAMILTON insisted that Mr. FLEMING should not vote.

Mr. FLEMING stated that he would vote as he pleased.

Mr. HAMILTON insisted on his motion to exclude Mr. FLEMING from voting on the bill.

Mr. FLEMING stated that he would vote as he pleased.

Mr. HAMILTON moved that the bill be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. ALTEMUS moved that the bill be made the question from the first meeting of the next month.

Mr. HAMILTON moved that the bill be made the question from the first meeting of the next month, and that the Committee of the Whole be instructed to report it back to Council without amendment